

**Senate File 613 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 613

BY COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1248)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the established season for hunting game  
2 birds on a preserve, and providing for fees.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 484B.1, subsection 5, Code 2019, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 5. "*Game birds*" means pen-reared birds of the ~~family~~  
4 gallinae order galliformes and pen-reared mallard ducks.

5 Sec. 2. Section 484B.10, subsection 1, Code 2019, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 1. a. A person shall not take a game bird or ungulate upon  
8 a hunting preserve, by shooting in any manner, except during  
9 the established season or as authorized by [section 481A.56](#).  
10 The established season shall be September 1 through March 31  
11 of the succeeding year, both dates inclusive. The owner of  
12 a hunting preserve shall establish the hunting season for  
13 nonnative, pen-reared ungulates on the hunting preserve.

14 b. A game bird hunting preserve operator may apply for a  
15 variance to extend the season date beyond March 31 for that  
16 preserve if the monthly precipitation is above average for  
17 the county in which the preserve is located for at least two  
18 months out of the months of January, February, and March of  
19 that season. The state climatologist established pursuant to  
20 section 159.5 shall provide official national weather service  
21 and community collaborative rain, hail and snow network data  
22 to the department to determine whether a variance to the  
23 established season shall be granted. An application for a  
24 variance shall be accompanied by a variance fee of twenty-five  
25 dollars. The department shall not grant a variance to a game  
26 bird preserve that extends the season beyond April 15 of the  
27 year for which the variance is requested.

28 EXPLANATION

29 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
30 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

31 This bill relates to the established season for hunting game  
32 birds on a preserve.

33 Under current law, a person shall not take a game bird on a  
34 hunting preserve except during the established hunting preserve  
35 season, which begins on September 1 and ends on March 31. The

1 bill allows a game bird hunting preserve operator to apply for  
2 a variance to extend the season beyond March 31 if the monthly  
3 precipitation is above average for the county in which the  
4 preserve is located for at least two months out of the months  
5 of January, February, and March of that season. The bill  
6 requires the state climatologist to provide official national  
7 weather service and community collaborative rain, hail and  
8 snow network data to the department of natural resources to  
9 determine whether a variance to the established season shall be  
10 granted. The bill requires the operator to pay a \$25 fee when  
11 applying for a variance. The bill prohibits the department  
12 from granting a variance that extends the season beyond April  
13 15 of the year for which the variance is requested.  
14 The bill also makes a change to the definition of "game bird"  
15 to reflect a recent reorganization of bird classification.